



December 21, 2015

File: 44200-00

DELIVERED BY EMAIL

Casey Langbroek
Chair
BC Broiler Hatching Egg Commission
180 – 32160 South Fraser Way
Abbotsford BC V2T 1W5

Brad Bond
Chair
BC Egg Marketing Board
250 – 32160 South Fraser Way
Abbotsford BC V2T 1W5

Robin Smith
Chair
BC Chicken Marketing Board
101 – 32450 Simon Ave
Abbotsford BC V2T 4J2

Ralph Payne
Chair
BC Turkey Marketing Board
106 – 19329 Enterprise Way
Surrey BC V3S 6J8

Dear Chairs:

UPDATE ON BIOSECURITY MEASURES IN THE POULTRY SECTOR

The BC Farm Industry Review Board (BCFIRB) read with interest the recent articles in the Vancouver Sun concerning the subject. BCFIRB would like to congratulate your boards and staff on the open, transparent and constructive approach they took in responding to the issues.

The boards and industry did report out on a good news story in noting the overall improvement in biosecurity measures in the sector. Those measures were essential in limiting the 2014 outbreak of avian influenza.

Admittedly, and as we all understand, ongoing improvement is a requirement. The current review of mandatory poultry insurance and the upcoming implementation of administrative penalties processes can also impact on the effectiveness of biosecurity measures in the poultry industry. With their first instance regulatory responsibility for orderly marketing in that sector, BCFIRB expects your boards to maintain a leadership role in ensuring effective communication, education, decision-making and enforcement continue to be priorities.

**British Columbia
Farm Industry Review Board**

Mailing Address:
PO Box 9129 Stn Prov Govt
Victoria BC V8W 9B5
Telephone: 250 356-8945
Facsimile: 250 356-5131

Location:
1ST Floor, 780 Blanshard Street
Victoria BC V8W 2H1
Email: firb@gov.bc.ca
Website: [www.gov.bc.ca/BCFarmIndustryReview
Board](http://www.gov.bc.ca/BCFarmIndustryReviewBoard)

Thank you again to all your boards in demonstrating accountability on this very important issue.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John Les". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the end.

John Les
Chair

cc: Honourable Norm Letnick
Minister of Agriculture

James Mack, Assistant Deputy Minister
Agriculture Science and Policy, Ministry of Agriculture

Jack Brown, Chair
BC Cranberry Marketing Commission

Bert Van Daltsen, Chair
BC Hog Marketing Commission

Jim Byrne, Chair
BC Milk Marketing Board

Alf Krause, Chair
BC Vegetable Marketing Commission

BCFIRB website